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COMPTON DIVISION

OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WORKING PAPER

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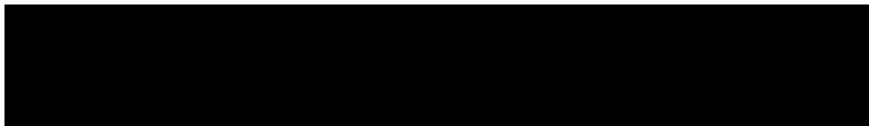
NORTHERN DIVISION WEEKLY

Intelligence Summary No. 92

28 November 1949

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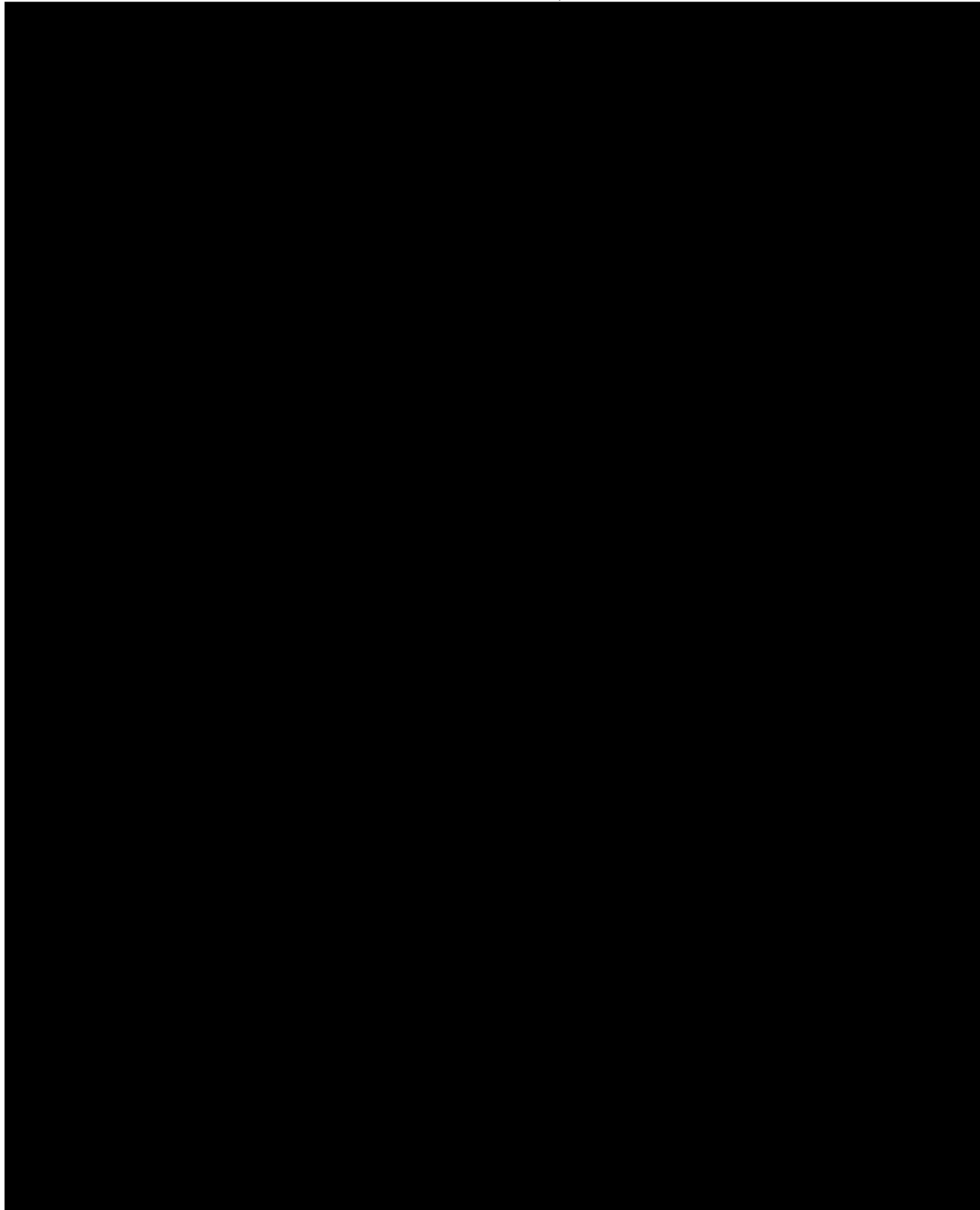
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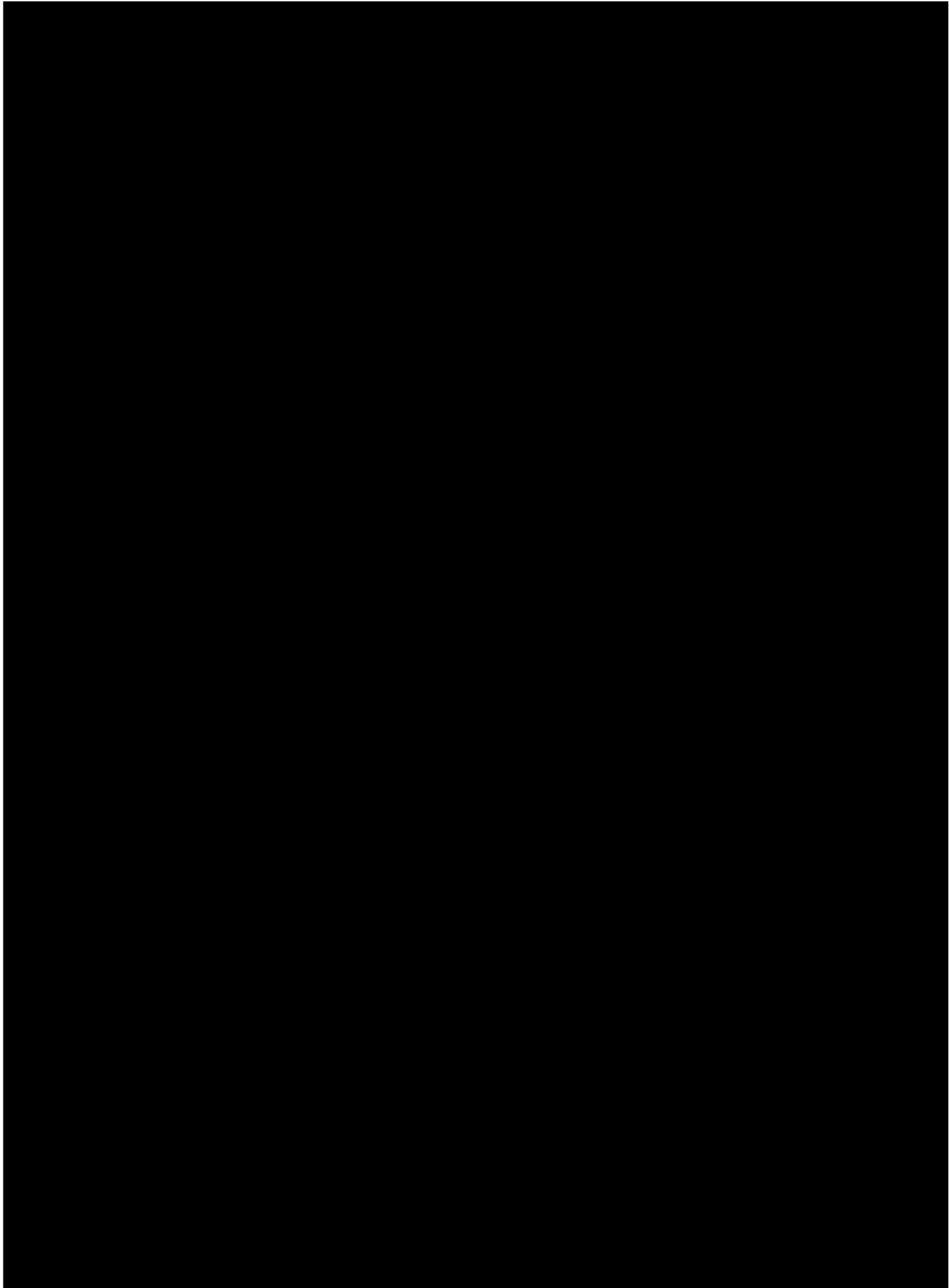


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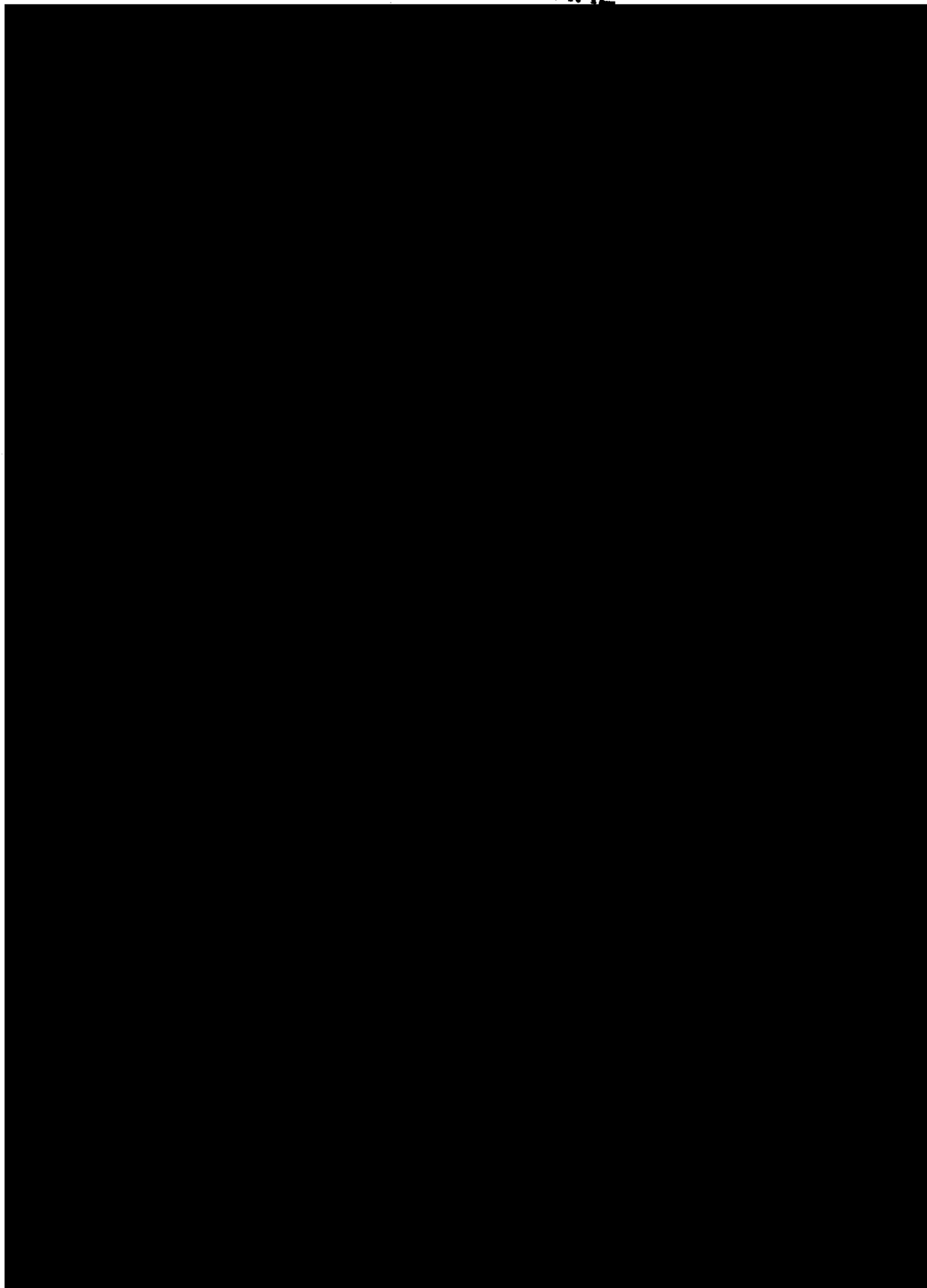


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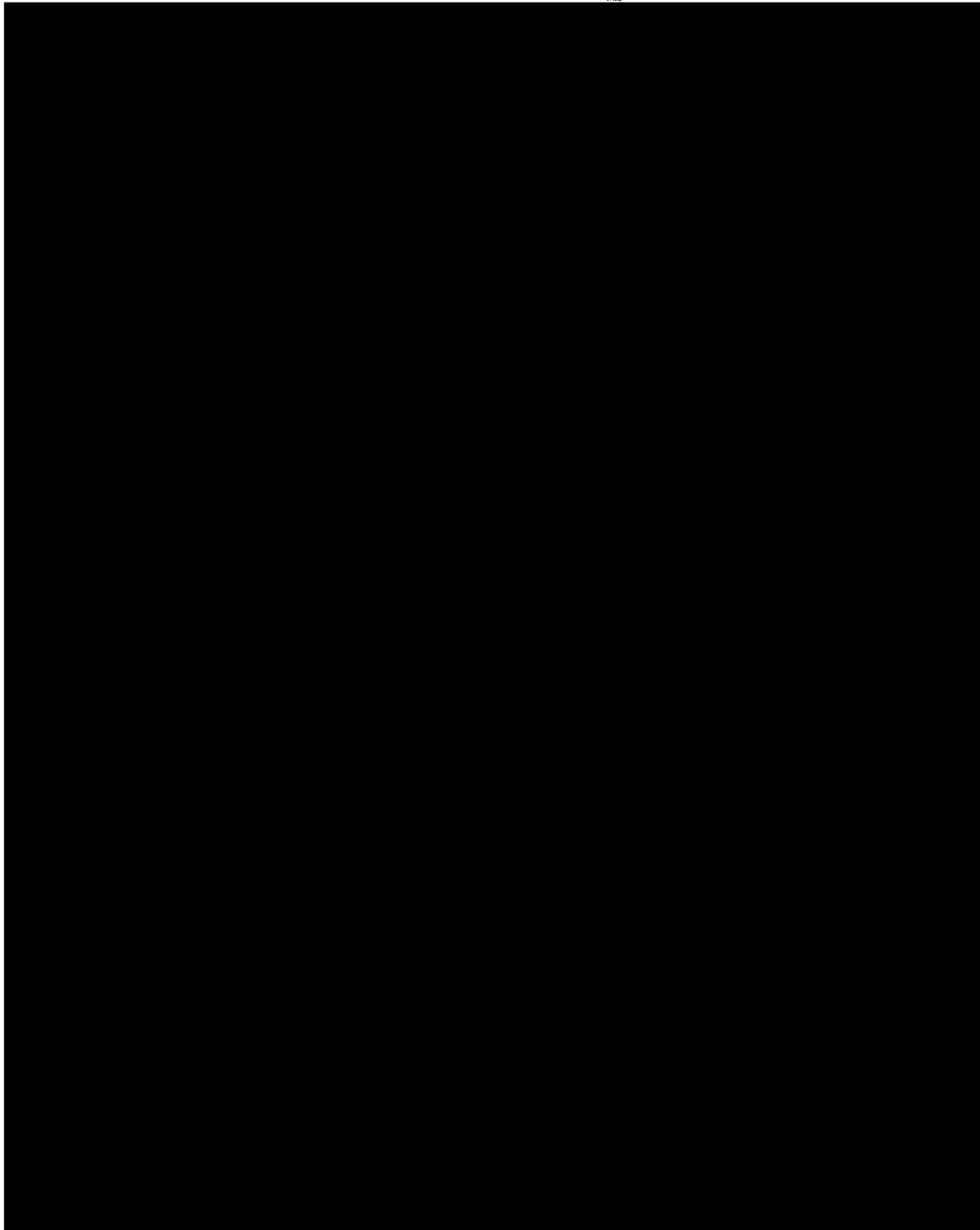
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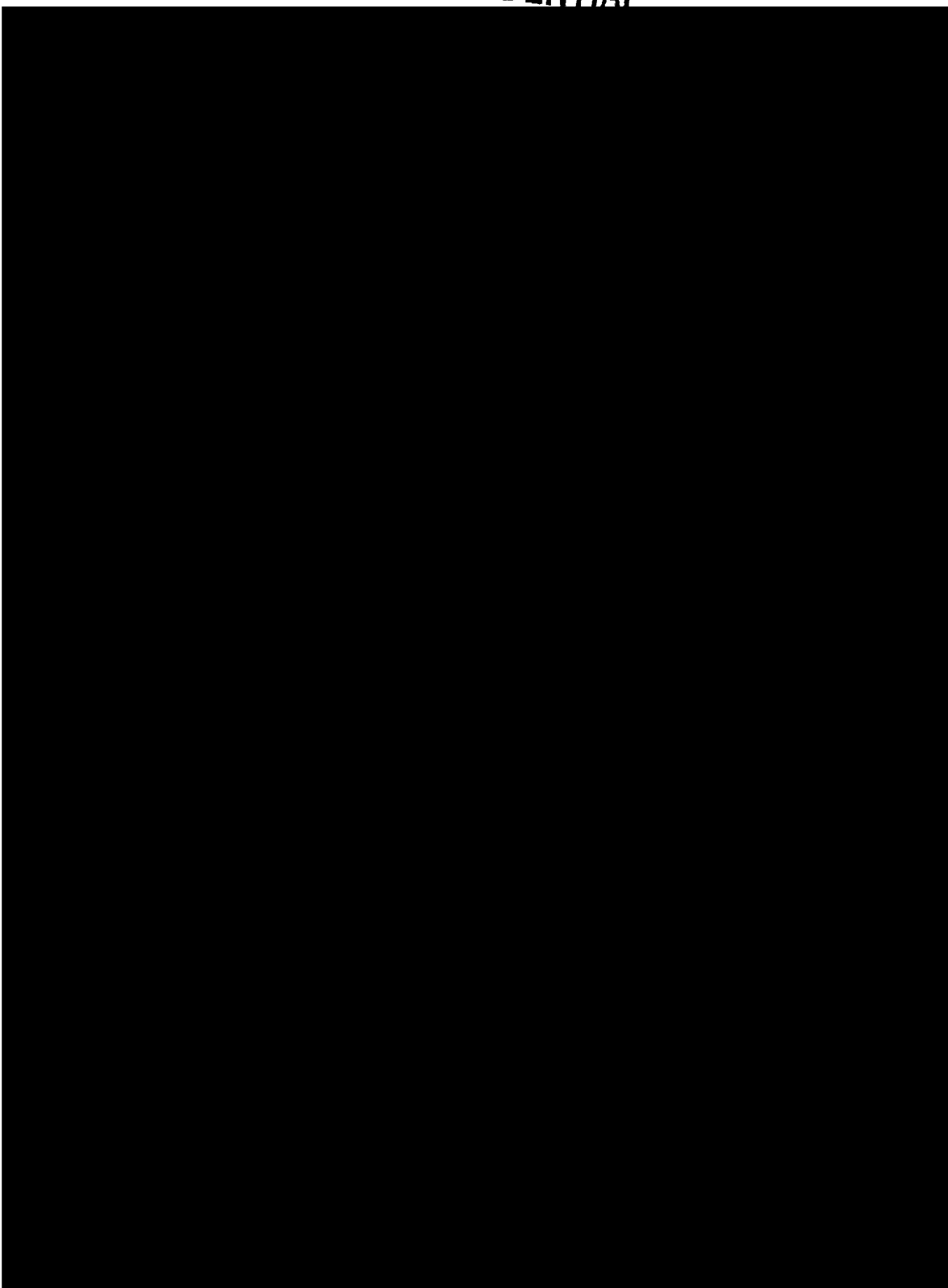
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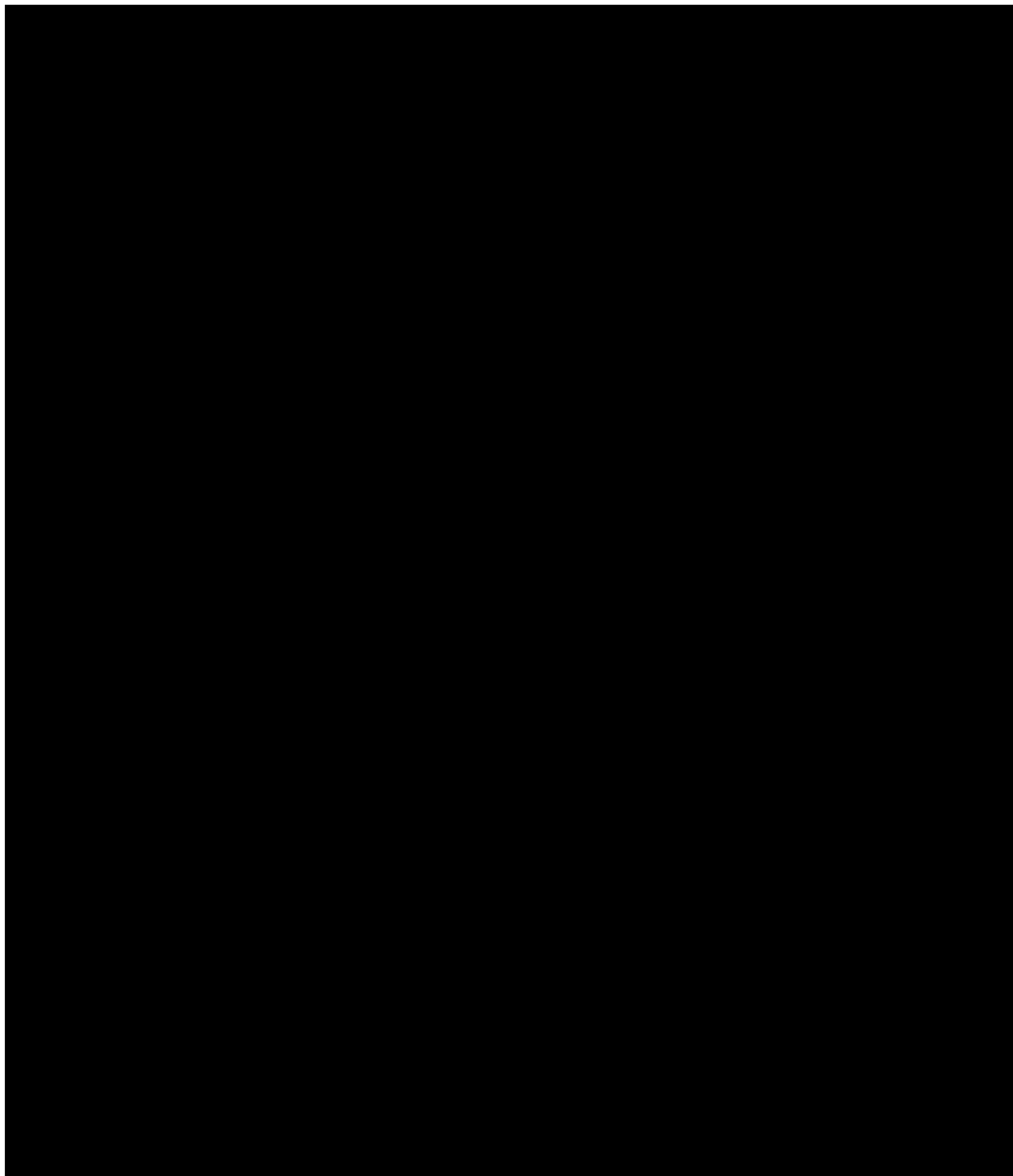
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IRELAND

9. US will hear more about Partition of Ireland

The US is being subjected to an increasingly intense Irish campaign to take sides in the partition dispute. The

* See ND Weekly No 88, 31 October

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recently stepped-up efforts of the Irish Government and of private individuals and organizations to publicize the case for uniting Ireland have now stirred the pro-partitionists to action. Their present plans call for the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland to visit this country in March to attend a dinner of the Ulster Irish Society and present the Society's annual award to Secretary of State Acheson. On the other hand, three Irish nationalists, two of them members of the Northern Ireland Parliament, are in this country, speaking as usual largely to the already converted but inevitably getting some outside attention. They were sympathetically received by prominent Irish-Americans, such as Mayor O'Dwyer, and just before their arrival at least one prominent non-Irish-American, Mrs. Roosevelt, had commented on partition in a way to win nationalist hearts. Official US policy towards partition is that it is not a US concern and does not require a US position. But, as the campaign to export this dispute continues, the Irish are going to get increasingly skeptical of whether this is in fact US policy. More important, it is likely to become increasingly difficult and embarrassing for us to maintain this policy in fact.

SCANDINAVIAN BRANCH

GENERAL

1. Scandinavian countries may be invited to join the sterling bloc

According to a report from the American Embassy at Copenhagen, Sir Stafford Cripps has sounded out Denmark, Norway, and Sweden on their willingness to join the sterling area. It is believed that Sweden would reject the proposal, Denmark probably would reject it, and Norway probably would accept it. Inclination to join appears to be in inverse proportion to the amount of gold and dollars which the respective countries have available to contribute to the sterling area dollar pool. Norway, with virtually nothing to contribute, may feel the benefits would outweigh the obligations. Denmark and Sweden, with larger holdings of dollars, would be reluctant to contribute them to the pool, and to have their use encumbered with the restrictions obligatory on sterling bloc membership. The UK, in extending the invitation, may have been motivated by the hope of increased trade although more important appears to be the prestige resulting from Scandinavian membership in the bloc and whatever weight such membership would lend to the UK

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position in OEEC. Since trade between the Scandinavian countries and the UK is already extensive it does not presently appear that official membership in the sterling bloc could greatly contribute to expanding it. In any event, the Scandinavian countries are believed to be more interested in early achievement of a multilateral system of payments between OEEC countries than in sterling bloc membership.

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